

# Hawai‘i State Association of Counties (HSAC)

Counties of Kaua‘i, Maui, Hawai‘i and City & County of Honolulu

530 South King St., Honolulu, Hawaii 96713 (808) 768 -5007 [www.hawaiicounties.com](http://www.hawaiicounties.com)



## MINUTES (draft)

### HSAC SPECIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING (Via ZOOM)

*Meeting was recorded and recording will be placed on HSAC Website.*

*Timestamps are noted next to each agenda item.*

**March 9, 2021**

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER (04:52)**

*The meeting was called to order by CM Waters at 12:12pm*

*In attendance were: Council Members- Tommy Waters (Oahu), Kelly King (Maui), Mason Chock (Kaua‘i) and Heather Kimball (Hawai‘i County); Council and Legislative Staff and HSAC Lobbyist, Jon Okudara.*

#### **II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (05:22)**

*Agenda was approved with no objections.*

#### **III. NEW BUSINESS (05:27)**

*Mr. Okudara updated the Executive Committee of the bills that were “still alive” including:*

- HB 160 and HB 161 (HSAC Bills relating to Vehicle Registration). These bills are still moving along. Mr. Okudara asked if he had permission to propose an amendment to “remove the \$10 limit” from HB 160. Officers made no objections.*
- HB 803/SB 756 (Relating to Electric Vehicles). Mr. Okudara suggested considering amending this bill’s requirement to increase electric vehicle stalls in parking lots with more than 100 parking spaces from 1 to 5 to push back the start date.*
- HB 485 (Relating to Taxation). The state wants to increase rental vehicle surcharge from \$5 to \$8 and the counties get zero. CM Waters proposed that Mr. Okudara ask for an amendment that allocates that the counties get 50% of this surcharge (regardless of the dollar amount).*
- HB 497 (Relating to County Zoning Ordinances). CM Waters said this bill was “concerning” and Mr. Okudara was unclear in its purpose. Mr. George Forest (Attorney for the City of Honolulu) said that there was testimony stating this bill would have very little influence in actual practice.*



- *HB1314 (Relating to Taxation).* All agreed that this bill was the state trying to take more funding and authority from the counties. Officers were urged to speak to their state delegation about opposing this bill.
- *SB 775 (Relating to Transient Accommodation Tax).* Mr. Okudara stated that this bill needs to be watched because of its title. It could be used to grab more "county" funds if it is changed through "gut and replace".
- *SB 1034 (Relating to Sunshine Law Boards).* This is the OIP Bill. Honolulu County has put forward a similar resolution and Hawai'i County is considering doing the same. Attorney George Forest recommended that if HSAC wants this bill to pass, that they don't try adding an amendment that might jeopardize its passing. Testimony is needed by all to try to get it passed as is because OIP does not seem to support recent amendments to the bill. CM Kimball proposed that HSAC work on a bill for next year in collaboration with Common Cause and League of Women Voters that would allow more flexibility for Council Members to caucus.
- *SB 1123 (Relating to Counties)* Mr. Okudara wanted guidance on whether to support, oppose or do nothing on this bill. Concerns were raised about the conditions of the properties being "given" to the counties to maintain. He will draft an amendment inserting language to clarify property conditions and get back to the executive committee.

#### **IV. ADJOURNMENT (1:19.21)**

*The meeting was adjourned by CM Waters at approximately 1:26pm with no objections.*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Heather Kimball". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name of the signatory.

**Council Member Heather Kimball**

**Secretary, Hawaii State Association of Counties**